events abroad is made by the Selection Committee constituted by the concerned NSFs based on the performance in national level championships/selection trials or ranking at the national level.

Under the scheme relating to Talent Search & Training, the proposals of sportspersons who fulfil the eligibility criteria *i.e.* who have equaled or excelled the existing record or is a Gold medallist of the last National Championship or is medallist of Asian/Commonwealth Games/Afro-Asian Games/Olympic Games/World Championship in the relevant category, *i.e.* Senior/Junior/Sub-junior, are considered by a Selection Committee under the chairmanship of the Joint Secretary (Sports) and approved by the Ministry.

Under the scheme of NSDF, the performance/excellence and chances of winning medals in major international events are among the criteria for selecting sportspersons for assistance from the Fund. The proposals received under NSDF are considered by the Executive Committee of the NSDF under the chairpersonship of the Secretary, Youth Affairs and Sports and approved by the Ministry.

(c) The Ministry's sports programme funds budget is Rs. 85.44 lakh, out of which approximately 58.30% is spent on training and exposures of the sportspersons and about 35.6% on incentives and awards. The Sports Authority of India, autonomous body of the Ministry, is spending funds on training of players ranging from 80 to 95% of its budget on training under plan schemes and 29 to 44.8% of its budget on training under its non-plan schemes.

Bidding for Asian Games

1850. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Olympic Association (IOA) had consulted Government before bidding for Commonwealth Games 2010;

(b) whether IOA sought Government's suggestions before bidding for Asian Games 2014;

(c) if so, how much it is going to cost to the exchequer; and

(d) if not, whether Government have taken any action against IOA?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) IOA's proposal has been received by the Government on 18.2.2005 seeking approval for bidding for Asian Games.

(c) Towards conduct of the Games, IOA has indicated a budget estimates of Rs. 655.51 crores against which receipt of Rs. 675.00 crores has been envisaged. No estimates towards sports infrastructure and civil infrastructure have been indicated. Therefore, the cost to exchequer cannot be indicated.

(d) Does not arise.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways.

II. Report and Account (2003-04) of the Ennore Port Limited Channai and related Papers.

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

I. (1) A Copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways (Department of Shipping), Notification G.S.R. 66 (E) dated the 11th February, 2005, publishing the Merchant Shipping (Levy of Oil Pollution Cess) Amendment Rules, 2005, under sub-section (3) of section 458 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 1742/05]

(2) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notification of the Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways (Department of Shipping), under sub-section (4) of section 124 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963.

(i) G.S.R. 39 (E) dated the 20th January, 2005 publishing the Madras Port Trust (Pay and Allowances, etc.) (Amendment) Regulation, 2005.

(ii) G.S.R. 62 (E) dated the 10th February, 2005 publishing the Vishakhapatnam Port Employees' (Classification, Control and Appeal) (Amendment) Regulation, 2005. [Placed in Library. For (i) or (ii) *See* No. LT 1743/05]